REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that this preliminary amendment be entered and considered prior to the initial examination. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: January 9, 2006

By:

Douglas P. Muelle Reg. No. 30,300

DPM/cmi